

A high-level monthly briefing on operations and activities at the Department of Energy's Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory – Home of Science and Engineering Solutions. Work at the lab supports the Department's business lines of environmental quality, energy resources, national security and science.

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## ■ ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY – Comments Sought on Accelerated Cleanup Plan

The U.S. Department of Energy this month released for public comment a draft plan that will guide accelerated cleanup and risk reduction at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory. The draft Performance Management Plan includes details of how the INEEL will implement a previously signed letter of intent with the state of Idaho and the Environmental Protection Agency to achieve significant risk reduction by 2012, and work to complete all active cleanup by 2020. The plan is available on the INEEL Internet home page at [www.inel.gov](http://www.inel.gov). It can also be obtained by calling Brad Bugger, DOE-ID stakeholder involvement coordinator, at (208) 526-0833, or by e-mail at [buggerbp@id.doe.gov](mailto:buggerbp@id.doe.gov). Comments will be accepted continuously, however those received prior to July 8, 2002 will have the greatest chance for consideration in the next revision of the plan. Comments on the plan can be submitted via the Internet at the INEEL web site above, or by mail to: Mark Arenaz, U.S. Department of Energy, MS 1154, 850 Energy Dr., Idaho Falls, Id., 83401.

## ■ NATIONAL SECURITY – INEEL Listed in New Homeland Defense Directory

The editors of *Homeland Defense Journal's* inaugural directory of homeland defense research and development laboratories recently requested information about the INEEL for use in the new publication. The INEEL is one of only two Department of Energy national labs listed in the directory, and one of only two Idaho institutions cited – the other being the University of Idaho. The INEEL's listing mentions "unique laboratory and test range assets where protective and predictive technologies, systems and policies are developed and validated under real-world conditions."

## ■ ENERGY RESOURCES – Revolutionary Technology Launched

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, in collaboration with the INEEL and other industry partners, unveiled a first-of-its-kind small-scale natural gas liquefaction facility June 24 in Sacramento. When fully operational, the facility will produce clean, safe and cost-effective transportation fuel for the heavy-duty vehicle market. One of the revolutionary aspects of the technology developed by INEEL researchers is that it dramatically reduces the LNG plant's size and cost. Standard LNG plants cost about \$10 million to build and occupy 5-to 6-acre sites. When this prototype technology is fully developed, plant construction cost is expected to be about \$450,000 and only about 240 square feet of space will be required.

## ■ SCIENCE – INEEL Sends Idaho Teachers to National Science Conference

The INEEL and the Office of Naval Research sent 20 teachers from Idaho to attend the National Educators Conference in Milwaukee, Wis., June 19-21. The conference, co-hosted by the JASON Foundation for Education and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, featured training on the JASON Project's multimedia curriculum. The teachers who received the training in Milwaukee will now teach other Idaho teachers about JASON. Earlier this year, more than 5,000 Idaho middle and junior high school students participated via satellite in JASON XIII: Frozen Worlds, a hands-on scientific experience broadcast from Alaska, to learn about the mysteries of the frozen world. Overall, the Idaho JASON Project attracted 10,000 Idaho students in a year-long science program designed to bring the thrill of discovery to the classroom.

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